

Fareham & Gosport

Voluntary Sector Health Forum

Notes of the meeting on 21st November 2017 - Fareham Community Church

The meeting was hosted by Community Action Fareham.

A list of those who attended and those who sent apologies is appended to these notes.

Welcome & Introductions

Paul O'Beirne of Community Action Fareham began by welcoming new attendees to the Forum:

- Ian Rickman – Fareham Borough Council – Head of Environmental Health & Licensing
- Helen Spires – Fareham Borough Council
- Jo Beauchamp – Live at Home Scheme
- Steve Irving – MS Society
- Hayley Hamlett - 1Community
- Julie Fisher – Community Action Training

All attendees then introduced themselves on their own tables.

Apologies can be found in the appendices to these notes.

Accessible Transport – Introduction by Paul O'Beirne

Paul O'Beirne outlined to those who were not aware, that following months of public consultation Hampshire County Council officers has suggested almost £20m of savings which could see school crossing patrols (£1.2m), subsidised bus services and community transport (combined £4m) lose their entire funding pot.

The proposed cuts are part of a plan by the County Council to address an anticipated budget shortfall of £140m by April 2019.

Fareham & Gosport Community Transport and Dial a Ride services are at risk. Paul made all aware of the postcards that can be sent to the Council explaining the effects that losing these services will have – encouraging all to help spread the word.

Paul introduced Ian Rickman to speak:

Talk by Ian Rickman - Fareham Borough Council – Head of Environmental Health & Licensing

Ian has worked for FBC for 32 years, he is local, and since 2011 has also been working at Gosport BC.

Ian stated that the legislation for hackney carriages has not been updated since 1847 – so you can see what a struggle it is when working with such old legislation.

Although Fareham and Gosport share staff in the licencing dept. each Council sets its own conditions / fees / driver's medical checks / police checks etc. The challenge is wheelchair accessible vehicles. Out of 250 vehicles only 4 in Fareham are wheelchair accessible.

At the moment I have spoken to DAR & CT services to see what the picture is like. If they should need to licence with us in the future we will try to make this as easy as possible. At the Council we do not have many people complain to us about accessible taxis. We do understand that there are issues and we always investigate any complaint that does come into us.

Comments / Questions:

Comment: It is not that people don't complain, it is that they don't know who to complain to. Also, some drivers do not want to bother with wheelchair passengers. If they are going to have to get out of the vehicle and strap someone in they won't want to do this.

Comment: Gosport Older Person's Forum provides a leaflet on transport and how to get around. We have a statement from the Council that if the vehicle is not equipped for you to wheel yourself in the driver must help you in and out (unless driver has a health certificate of exemption).

Answer: We do care, when complaints do come in we investigate them fully and speak to the driver. We will revoke their licence if appropriate i.e. drink driving. We can take drivers to a panel and investigate everything that has been reported. We would expect drivers to give reasonable assistance, please report to us if this is not received.

Question: Have FBC released a leaflet on this? Gosport has one.

Answer: No, we would be pleased to look at Gosport's one.

Question: As you are working across Gosport & Fareham can the areas not work together so we don't have different licencing boards?

Answer: Unfortunately not, it is really difficult for the staff that work across the two areas to remember what set of rules they are following!

Question: We might lose CT & DAR – is there a way that 'not for profits' can run 6 seater accessible vehicles?

Answer: Yes, that is one of the ideas floating around. We can help them down the licencing route.

Question: Is there an age limit for drivers?

Answer: No, but they need to have the same standard of medical tests etc as HGV drivers. After 65 years of age these tests need to be taken annually.

Question: What is the cost of this?

Answer: Medical charges are set by GPs. Licencing has an admin fee – this can also be reviewed for the Voluntary Sector.

Question: What are the rules around taking dogs?

Answer: If it is an assistance dog we must take it. Non-service dogs are at the discretion of the driver.

Any further comments can be sent to Helen Spires on HSpires@Fareham.Gov.UK

Valerie Rossiter: On a personal note: I parked in a disabled bay at QA hospital and found that the nearest ticket machine was much too far for me to walk to and come back to my car, then back again past machine to the hospital. I left a note on my car that I would purchase a ticket on my way in, but it would not be displayed in the car and explained my reasons. A week later a £100 fine came through the post. I am challenging this. These machines are not easily accessible. If we all sent letters to the QA and made a nuisance of ourselves maybe they will speak with the parking company.

Group Presentations

Valerie Rossiter – Fareham & District Parkinson's UK Branch

Valerie stated that she has come along today to provide an update on the 'wish list' she originally gave at a previous Health Forum meeting.

She had previously reported that there were difficulties around self-mediation at QA hospital. Since that time the hospital had invited her in to a meeting to discuss the issues, as well as a Diabetes group and a group supporting parents with young children. They met with the Head Pharmacist and after the meeting wrote a draft paper which is now being rolled out at the hospital. We are happy that we raised this at the Health Forum and it demonstrates the

value of working together in this way.

There are three areas we want to see improved.

1. We as a health group have a problem in that Parkinson's clinics at Gosport War Memorial have been badly hit by funding cuts. Six monthly appointments have now been made into nine or ten monthly appointments. Parkinson's is a progressive illness and that is a long time to wait. For some patients, the damaging effect of delaying a medication review can be irreversible. The Society has made huge investment in setting up Parkinson's Nurses courses, we still pay for training. These Nurses have had their hours cut and their areas increased.

There have been three cases in three months of people who have reached crisis point as their appointments have been pushed back. Please can we have this looked at at CCG level?

2. We would like to see people who are newly diagnosed have a clear pathway set out that they will follow in the health service. It is difficult for people to know what to expect with respect to physio/medication etc. They need to know how long it will take before they can see someone. They should be entitled to six months of physio – but then after that there is not another offer. This area needs looking at please.

3. The Society would like to encourage people to see exercise in the same way as medicine. Exercise is so effective and if doctors could talk to their patients alongside us I am sure more people would take it up.

A. Lucy Docherty, Lay Member of CCG Governing Body: I will raise this at the next meeting.

Margo Berry – Ports & SE Hants Osteoporosis Support Group

Please [click here](#) to view Margo's presentation.

No questions were received.

Noticeboard

Gosport Voluntary Action spoke about their 'Splash' project.

In December 2017, GVA will be starting an exciting new project called SPLASH! funded by an Awards for All grant, which will enable them to identify and work towards addressing the barriers some people face when they want to volunteer. They will work with potential volunteers and local voluntary groups to consult on the nature of barriers, then develop a working party and produce useful resources to help improve access to volunteering.

If you would like to be part of this exciting project, on the steering committee, as an organisation already helping those with support needs who can share best practice, or if you are an organisation that would like to have volunteers with support needs but don't know where to start, please get in touch with Sue Greene at GVA.

02392 604694 or timebanking@gva.org.uk

GVA also spoke about their upcoming Skill Share Event.

Looking for help with something? Want to learn some new skills? Can you share your skills?

The Old Railway Meeting Room, Spring Garden Lane, Gosport

Next Session: Tuesday 12th December 2017 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Email Sue: timebanking@gva.org.uk Telephone 02392 604694

Paul O'Beirne asked if everyone had seen our e-news item about a 'state of the sector' survey?

If you didn't see it please let us know and we will send it to you.

Paul: MCP (Multi-speciality Community Provider)

The voluntary sector has a large part to play regarding the contract. See Paul's report from the meeting between CCG and voluntary sector representatives on 20th November.

Please [click here](#).

Julie – CAF Training – Community Action Fareham are holding a networking event:

Are You Being Served?

Is your voluntary group getting the most out of its membership of Community Action

Fareham?

Training courses? Volunteer Recruitment? Transport? Admin help? DBS checks? Governance information? Fund finding? Join our networking lunch 11am to 1.30pm on Wednesday 29th November. Learn what more we can offer you and let us know what more we can do to support your work. A great opportunity to network with other local groups and build relationships. Donation for lunch £2.50. Venue is United Reformed Church, Osborn Road South, Fareham, PO16 7DG. Please [click here](#) for more information.

Break for Lunch

Groups invited to network over the lunch period.

Strength based approach – Support to enable people to remain at home

Talk by Karen Jackson – Integrated Services Director – HCC

Please [click here](#) to view Karen's presentation.

Question: Can charities and community groups see the types of equipment available to support people in their own homes e.g. Alexa, Ipads etc?

Answer: Paul – this is something we could perhaps put on the agenda for the next HF meeting? Karen – Yes, we could bring some equipment to show you.

Question: We have had problems with Connect to Support. Most organisations on there are national and it is confusing as to how to get local information.

Answer: Going into 2018 we are looking at Community Connectors and Local Re-enablers (to disseminate information). I will take this information away and feed it back.

Question: Portsmouth Hospitals Trust is at risk of special measures because of 'bed blockers'. Are you really speeding up that process?

Answer: We are working with GPs and community health to support people more in their own homes.

Personal Health Budgets

Talk by Meriel Chamberlain & Jill Kelly – NHS West Hampshire CCG

Please [click here](#) to view presentation.

Question: Is it means tested?

Answer: No, we are devising a calculator which will work out the level of care needed.

Question: How is it funded?

Answer: It comes out of the CCG budget.

Question: Not clear about means testing

Answer: Eligibility isn't means tested.

Question: How does continuing health care mesh with personal health budgets?

Answer: When we assess eligibility we ask them what they would like and how they would like it delivered.

We have started locality drop-in information sessions and will send the dates to Community Action Fareham for circulating. – To follow.

Question: Direct payment, do you chase up if a care company is not doing what they should?

Answer: Yes, we would do that.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be hosted by Gosport Voluntary Action on Tuesday 6th February 2018.

Close of Meeting

If there are any other questions for any of the speakers at this meeting please send them to the HF email address: hfgf@actionfareham.org.uk and we will pass them on.

Attendees:

First Name	Last Name	Organisation
Alison	McNulty	Gosport Voluntary Action
Annette	O'Beirne	Community Action Fareham
Brenda	Woon	F&G CCG
Caroline	Hillier	Everetts Pharmacy
Christopher	Staples	QA Hospital
Emma	Dunbar	Solent Mind
Hayley	Hamlett	One Community
Helen	Spires	Fareham Borough Council
Ian	Rickman	Fareham Borough Council
Istvan	Szucs	Rainbow Centre
Jayan	Pillai	Community Action Fareham
Jeanette	Perry	CHAT
Jennie	Romicheva	Community Action Fareham
Jill	Kelly	Hampshire CCG
Jo	Beauchamp	Fareham Live at Home Scheme
Judy	Newman	Walking 4 Health
Julie	Fisher	Community Action Fareham
June	Powell	Community Action Fareham
Karen	Jackson	Hampshire County Council
Laura	George	Community Action Fareham
Lucie	Debenham	Alzheimer's Society
Lucy	Docherty	F&G CCG
Lynda	Young	Fareham Stroke Club
Madeline	Close	Disabled People's Voice
Margo	Berry	Osteoporosis support
Mary	Sheppard	QA Hospital
Meriel	Chamberlain	Hampshire CCG
Michael	Stephenson	Inform Fareham Focus Group
Nicky	Staveley	Gosport Voluntary Action
Nicola	Gore	Princess Royal Trust for Carers
Nik	Quest	KROMA
Pamela	Webber	Ileostomy Support Group
Patricia	Gulliford	Friends of Fareham Comm. Hosp.
Paul	O'Beirne	Community Action Fareham
Steve	Irving	MS Society
Suzanne	Pepper	Gosport Older Person's Forum
Valerie	Rossiter	Fareham & Dist. Parkinson's UK
Vivienne	Pugh	Community Action Fareham

Apologies:

First Name	Last Name	Organisation
Caroline	Hodkinson	Lee Residents Association
Julie	Petty	Gosport Borough Council
George	Ringrow	F & G Diabetes UK
Lisa	Vallance	Veterans Outreach Support
Tina	Randall	Wessex Cancer Trust
Rowena	Dodds	Solent Mind
Gerald	Everitt	Fareham & Gosport Lipreaders
Suella	Fernandes	Office of Suella Fernandes MP
John	Habberley	G & F branch MS Society